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Official

PATENT

IBM Docket: GB9-2000-0@ROUP 3600

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Transmittal (by Facsimile) of

Amendment

In reApplication of:

D. C. Fallside, et al

Serial Number:

09/583,479

Filed:

May 31, 2000

Apparatus and Method for Optimizing Group Bulk Purchases

Examiner: Michael A. Cuff

No additional fee is required.

Art Unit:

The fee due for this response is calculated below.

Claims Remai After Amendr			Highest Number Already Paid For*		Present Extra		Rate		Additional Fee
Total	13	-	13	=	0	@	\$18.00	=	\$0.00
Independent	2	-	3	=	0	@	\$84.00	=	\$0.00
First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claims \$280.00 =									\$0.00
TOTAL									\$0.00

^{*}Total claims previously paid for must be 20 or more. Independent claims previously paid for must be 3 or more.

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March 21, 2003

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFIC

In re application of

March 21, 2003

D. C. Fallside, et al

IBM Corporation

Dept. T81/Bldg. 503

Serial No.

09/583,479

P. O. Box 12195

Filed: 5/31/2000

Res. Tri. Park, NC 27709

For:

Apparatus and Method for

Art Unit:

3627

Optimizing Group Bulk Purchases

Examiner:

Michael A. Cuff

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on December 23, 2003, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted:

In the Claims:

1. (Original) A method for placing a group order, mediated by a system having one or more computers, the method comprising the steps of:

publishing, by a publisher, information about a quantity of a material;

subscribing, via a subscriber, to a topic comprising said information;

receiving, via a subscriber, said information;

aggregating, via a subscriber, said information from at least one of said publishers; and

Serial No. 09/583,479

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